

THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF
Schools and Colleges
in Ontario, 1792-1910.

BY
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VOLUME II.

PARTS II. TO XI. INCLUSIVE.



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THE ONTARIO INSTITUTE
FOR STUDIES IN EDUCATION

TORONTO:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY L. K. CAMERON,

Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

1910

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study in one of the Forms. Pupils are not allowed to change their studies without the consent of the Principal. Pupils who for want of time, or other reasons, find themselves unable to take advantage of the full Graduation Course, may, with the consent of the Principal, select from the Course a group of subjects, and on the completion of full work in these subjects in any Form, are, on the approval of the Faculty, granted a Certificate from the College setting forth the work done.

The Aim of the College is, in a word, to equip the pupil for life. The preparation which it seeks to give consists not merely in the imparting of information, but still more in the development of a sweet and serious womanhood. Its object is to give that broad and generous culture of head and heart which will fit the pupils to become true women of trained capacity, ready to embrace life's opportunities, and to meet its obligations, whether in the home or elsewhere, with thoroughness, geniality, and earnestness. The education here given will fit the girls to lead a useful, helpful, and interesting life.

The Work for Graduation in Westminster College is arranged with the desire to help to meet the increasingly felt want of many a girl and earnest-minded young woman of a course of study in a resident School that is both thorough and comprehensive.

The College Staff is as follows: The Reverend A. R. Gregory, B.A., Principal; Mrs. A. R. Gregory, Lady Principal. Teachers: The Misses Nora Lewis, B.A., Agnes P. Osborne, B.A., Helen M. Paterson, Gertrude Schafheitlin, B.Sc., Grace H. Hunter, M.A., Ethel M. Rolls, Mary S. Paton, Frances McLean, Helena C. Beard, Harriet R. McCurdy, Constance W. Weeford, Mrs. S. Ayearst, Messieurs Henry A. McTaggart, M.A., and Sedley A. Cudmore, B.A.; Mr. Owen Staples, O.S.A., Visitor and Advisor; Mrs. Theodore W. Gregory, Registrar and Accountant.

THE MARGARET EATON SCHOOL OF EXPRESSION, TORONTO.

The Margaret Eaton School of Literature and Expression was opened on January the 7th, 1907. At that time the Managers consisted of a Board of Directors composed of Mr. Timothy Eaton, President; Mrs. Eaton, the Reverend Chancellor Burwash, Mrs. Burwash, Mr. H. McGee, Mrs. Burnside, Mr. J. C. Eaton, and Mrs. Scott Raff.

The present Directors are the Reverend Chancellor Burwash, President; Mrs. Eaton, Mr. J. C. Eaton, Mrs. Burwash, Mrs. Burnside, Mr. McGee, Mr. R. Y. Eaton, and Mrs. Scott Raff. There are nine Teachers employed on the Staff.

The real purpose of our School is a threefold Education for Women. We believe that head, hand, and heart should be trained at the same time, and so are working for mental, moral, and physical strength.

The Margaret Eaton School of Literature and Expression aims to develop the individual so that every person may realize her highest powers for service through this one sphere of existence, and we know that education to be true must be for the individual. This is what will eventually distinguish our School from other Institutions, for we are supplying a need not met with heretofore. Because I dislike modern methods of Elocution, I am giving my whole time to this work of training Students to love truth, and to know that it is beauty. *TO KAAOKA-EATON* is inscribed above our Dwelling, and, of a truth, we who are pioneering this work are striving for good and beautiful things.

TORONTO, January 10th, 1910.

EMA SCOTT RAFF, *Principal*.

PART XI.

LADIES' COLLEGES AND GIRLS' PREPARATORY SCHOOLS OF ONTARIO.

On being appointed by General Eaton, Commissioner of Education in the United States at Washington, an International Juror at the World's Fair, or Exhibition, at New Orleans in 1884, the duties as such of the Editor of this Volume at that Exhibition were in connection with the Educational Exhibits of the several United States at that Exhibition. Each of the Educational Jurors presented a series of Papers on Education in their own Country, which were read and discussed at an Educational Convention which was held during the Exhibition. Among the series of Papers which I had prepared by various parties in the Province was one on "Female Education in Ontario" by the Reverend Doctor Alexander Burns, Governor and Principal of the Wesleyan Ladies' College in Hamilton (not now in existence). That paper I herewith insert as preliminary to the following series of sketches of the several Ladies' Colleges and Girls' Preparatory Schools in the Province.

At the Convention the President of the United States acted as Chairman, and I had the honour of being appointed Secretary.

FEMALE EDUCATION IN ONTARIO.

By the REVEREND ALEXANDER BURNS, D.D., LL.D., Governor and Principal of the Wesleyan Ladies' College, Hamilton, Ontario.

In Ontario, as in other Countries, the higher education of women was not originally considered an essential part of even a complete system of education. Our Public Schools, High Schools, Normal Schools, and our Colleges are all established on a liberal scale, and are cause of just pride to our Province. To the Normal Schools women have always been admitted, and a large proportion of the Teachers in our Public Schools have been women—many of them prepared in these Normal Schools, and a number in the High Schools. But beyond furnishing the facilities for preparing to become School Teachers the State has done absolutely nothing for the higher education of women.

But while the matter has been thus ignored by the State, private generosity has largely supplied the appliances and facilities to give women an introduction to those higher walks of Literature, Science, and Philosophy, so long monopolized by men.

In no Country has higher education depended more on private effort, and in no Country has it received a more generous support. The first Institution opened for higher education was the Upper Canada Academy (now Victoria University, Cobourg)—established by the Methodists of Canada. It has been followed by several others on the voluntary basis, and Victoria, Queen's (Presbyterian), Trinity (Anglican) and others have done work and wielded an influence that would be a credit to the Colleges of any Country.

So in efforts for the higher education of women. The first Ladies' College opened in the Province was the Wesleyan Ladies' College of Hamilton. This also has been followed by others, furnishing ample accommodation to all aspiring after a liberal education. There are at present seven Ladies' Colleges that have been established by denominational patronage, and have never received any assistance from the State. Of these the Methodist Church has three—the Wesleyan Ladies' College of Hamilton; the Ontario Ladies' College of Whitby; and the Alma College of St. Thomas. The Church of England has two—the Bishop Strachan School at Toronto, and the Hellmuth Ladies' College of London. The Presbyterian Church has two—the Ottawa Ladies' College, and the Brantford Ladies' College. Although these Institutions are under denominational auspices, still no sectarian test, or subscription, is required of their students, and even their Faculties represent several denominations. Besides these Colleges, each Roman Catholic diocese has one or more Schools or Convents for the education of women, and, in some of them, the higher branches receive considerable attention.

But few of the undergraduates of these Colleges are satisfied with the work of the Curriculum. More than ninety per cent. carry side by side with the prescribed Course a very liberal Course in Music and Art. Many of them are also well advanced in Art studies, Drawing, Water Colours and Oil Painting.

From this brief sketch it will be seen that the higher education of women has not been neglected in Ontario. In the Ladies' Colleges alone, any young lady can obtain an education as extensive and as practical as even the most cultured society need desire. It may be said that the omission of Greek makes a great disparity between the two courses of study. In reply we would call attention to the fact that Greek is rapidly becoming an elective study everywhere. But should Girl Students ask for the Greek it could easily be furnished, as most of the Ladies' Colleges of Ontario have classical graduates in their Faculties.

In addition to the facilities furnished by the Ladies' Colleges, the Colleges and Universities of the Province, hitherto occupied exclusively by men, are now opening their doors to admit women to all their Lectures and Recitations, and also to their Degrees, on the same conditions as men. This removes the last difficulty out of the way of women having every educational advantage that they can possibly desire.

It seems too late in the day to put obstructions in the way of co-education. Not that co-education is best for every Girl, or that it is likely ever to become universal, but because it is practically the only hope that multitudes can ever have of securing the higher education. No one that has ever become acquainted with the system under fair trial will hesitate for a moment to admit that Girls can hold their own in every part of the Curriculum. My own experience extended through thirteen years, and during that time I have seen Girls lead their Classes in the most unlikely subjects,—in Aristophanes, Æschylus, and Euripides, and the men in these classes would have been considered fair Greek scholars anywhere. I have seen the same thing in the Differential and Integral Calculus. That matter is settled beyond doubt. There can be no possible objection to co-education on the ground of intellectual inequality; nor is the Girl's health more likely to suffer than her brother's. The closest observation and the most extensive statistics, stretching over half a century in some cases, have abundantly proved this.

Neither does co-education increase the difficulties of discipline. I have no knowledge of any Girls having become less delicate and refined through the pres-

ence of men. I *have* known very noisy meetings brought suddenly to order by the entrance of a few ladies. Manhood is at a low ebb when its better phases respond not to the presence of woman. An appeal to the Colleges in which co-education has been fairly tried will dissipate at once all fears touching any of these objections.

Still there will always be a large number of our people who will prefer to have their daughters educated at the Ladies' Colleges; and there will always be a goodly percentage of Girls who will do better in such Institutions than in those to whose classes both sexes are admitted. There will always be mothers who will think more of the surroundings of their children while receiving their education,—of good taste, of delicacy of thought and action, of refinement of manners, of those items whose sum total constitutes true lady-like culture,—than of the intricacies of Syntax or the subtleties of Metaphysics; and who can blame them? But when Ladies' Colleges furnish all the advantages offered by the other Institutions in both Syntax and Metaphysics, and in addition supply the demands of woman for instruction in Music and Art, and kindred subjects that lend a charm to home and social life, they will assuredly be preferred for many a day by the leading families of our country.

The present outlook for the higher education of women is, upon the whole, promising. No Girl need leave our Province to secure even a University education and a University Degree. Those who wish to couple with a liberal education in arts the accomplishments peculiar to a Ladies' College have all they can desire or use.

NOTE.—Of the Ladies' Colleges mentioned in the foregoing article the following have been discontinued, videlicet, the Wesleyan Ladies' College, Hamilton; the Young Ladies' College, Brantford.

The following is a brief sketch of these Colleges:

WESLEYAN LADIES' COLLEGE, HAMILTON.

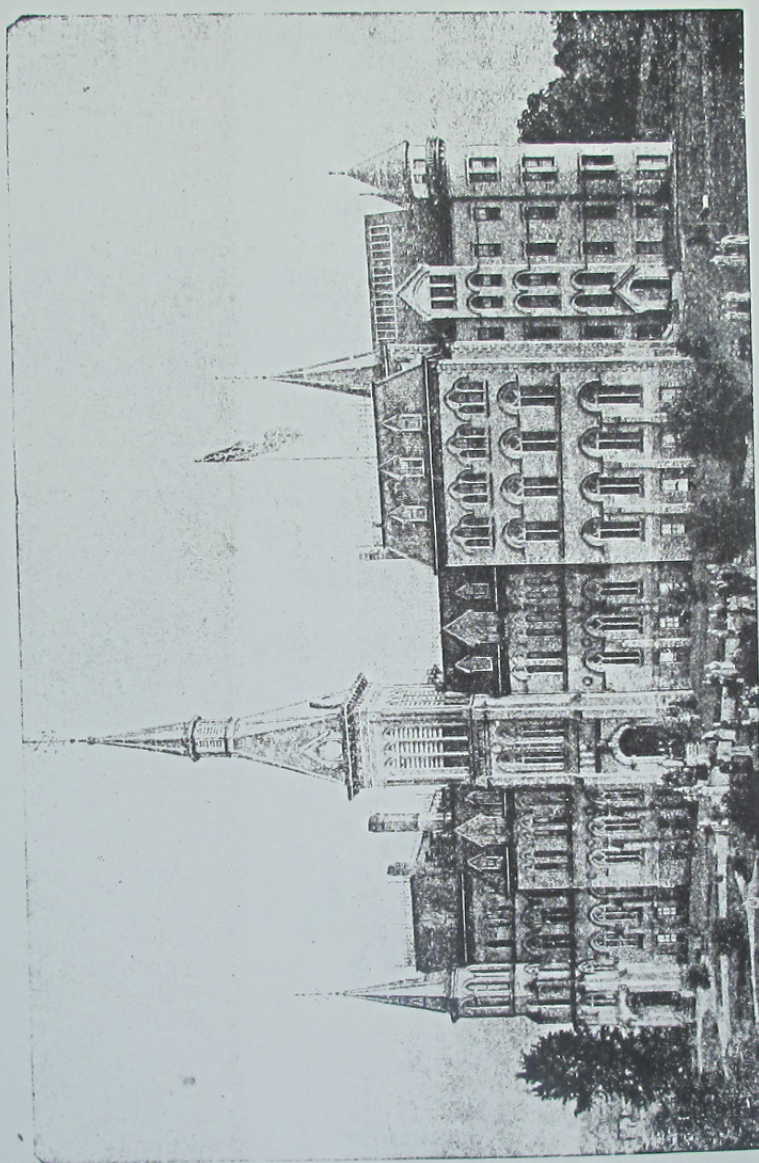
This Institution was incorporated by Act of Parliament and was opened in 1861, under the auspices of the Conference of the Methodist Church in Canada. It was the first College in the Province chartered for the separate education of Young Ladies, although not the first which provided facilities for the higher education of women. The Upper Canada Academy—another Methodist Institution—(now Victoria University), which was opened at Cobourg in 1836, had from the very first a Ladies' department in it, presided over by a Preceptress and other Teachers. It was the only Institution of the kind in Upper Canada at that time and that formally adopted the principle of co-education.

YOUNG LADIES' COLLEGE, BRANTFORD.

This College, established in 1874, is in connection with the Presbyterian Church in Canada. It is situated in the City of Brantford, on the Grand River, in a fertile and beautiful part of the country. The College was under the management of a Board comprising Visitor and Honorary Director (the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada); two Official Visitors (appointed by General Assembly); an Advisory Council of three Clergymen, and a Board of nine Directors.

ALMA LADIES' COLLEGE, ST. THOMAS.

The thought of making St. Thomas the seat of a College for women first practically came to the mind of Reverend Albert Carman, M.A., D.D., LL.D., General Superintendent of the Methodist Church. His duties, in the seventies, as Bishop,



ALMA LADIES' COLLEGE, ST. THOMAS.

or Superintendent, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, caused him to travel much throughout Western Ontario. He became impressed that there was a fine opening for such an Institution, and that the central position of St. Thomas made it a desirable location for the proposed college. The movement to establish a Ladies'



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